

MEMORANDUM

April 7, 2003

TO: Governor

FROM: John

RE: Points for Gallo Radio Show

I talked with Paul Gallo this afternoon, and you are booked for 6:30 tomorrow morning (Tuesday, April 8).

Budget:

- Compromise demonstrates that when we work in the spirit of cooperation toward a common goal, it is the people of Mississippi who win
- National recession has challenged us over the past three years
 - Met that challenge without raising taxes, by cutting the fat out of state government
 - Accomplished our goal of protecting our savings, and without raising taxes
- Achieved much during this session by putting schools first, and working to create more jobs for the people of Mississippi
 - Work was done in the spirit of bipartisan cooperation and compromise
- We now have a budget that sets education as a priority, focuses on creating quality jobs, and protects essential services such as Medicaid

Education:

- Investment in education is an investment in the promise and potential of our state
- The education bill passed during this session invests in our schools for one year, but the fight we fought and won, changed the way we invest in education forever
 - Schools will no longer be addressed the last week of the session
 - School children will no longer have to compete for resources with convicted felons in our prisons
- We've set priorities for Mississippi, with focus on:
 - Building on the standards of excellence that have been set for our schools
 - The creation of quality, high-paying jobs for our people
 - The protection of critical services in areas such as health care and public safety.